

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TOKYO 13583 060705Z  
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 HEW-06 EPA-04 EB-08 MED-03  
AGRE-00 COME-00 NSC-05 /046 W  
-----110042 060708Z /14  
R 060613Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 819

UNCLAS TOKYO 13583

OES/APT/BMP FOR WILLIWM WALSH

DEPT PASS TO DHEW/FDA; EPA; CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TBIO, SENV, JA  
SUBJECT: BAN ON DIELDRIN, APO RECOMMENDED

1. ON SEPT. 1, LIVING ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL, ADVISORY BODY FOR MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, RECOMMENDED BAN ON USE OF DIELDRIN AND TRIS (1-AZIRIDINYL) PHOSPHINE OXIDE (APO) IN TEXTILE PRODUCTS. MHW WILL BAN THEIR USE AS RECOMMENDED AFTER THREE MONTHS' GRACE PERIOD FOR APO AND AFTER A YEAR'S GRACE PERIOD FOR DIELDRIN.

2. USE OF DIELDRIN IN PESTICIDES WAS BANNED IN 1971 BASED ON FINDING THAT DIELDRIN IN PESTICIDE RESIDUE DAMAGES HUMAN LIVER AND CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. THEN IN 1972, MITI POINTED OUT POTENTIAL DANGER OF DIELDRIN USED IN CLOTHING (AS INSECT REPELLENT) BEING ABSORBED INTO HUMAN BODY THROUGH SKIN AND SPECIFIED THAT DIELDRIN SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR UNDERWEAR AND BABY PRODUCTS AND THAT DIELDRIN USED IN OTHER TYPES OF CLOTHING SHOULD NOT EXCEED 100 PPM. AS DIELDRIN AT LESS THAN 200 PPM HAS LITTLE INSECT-REPELLING EFFECT, PRODUCTS CONTAINING SEVERAL HUNDRED PPM OF DIELDRIN ARE CURRENTLY ON MARKET.  
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 13583 060705Z

3. ANIMAL TESTS HAVE SHOWN THAT APO ALSO IS ABSORBED BY THE BODY THROUGH SKIN TO TRIGGER DISORDERS OF HEMATOGENIC AND REPRODUCTIVE FUNCTIONS. FOR THIS REASON, MHW IN 1974 TOLD TEXTILE INDUSTRY IT PLANNED TO REGULATE ITS USE IN FUTURE. MINISTRY ACTION RESULTED IN INDUSTRY EXERCISING SELF-DISCIPLINE AND ONLY SMALL

AMOUNTS OF APO ARE NOW BEING USED IN COTTON PRODUCTS AS FLAME RETARDANT.

4. COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION COVERS ALMOST ALL TEXTILE PRODUCTS IN WHICH THE TWO CHEMICALS ARE LIKELY TO BE USED. THE PROPOSED TOLERANCE FOR DIELDRIN IS 30 PPM, REFLECTING FACT THAT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO REMOVE THE CHEMICAL FROM TEXTILES EMPLOYING REGENERATED FIBER OR FROM PRODUCTS MADE FROM WOOL WHICH ALREADY CONTAINS THE CHEMICAL. AS FOR APO, COUNCIL SPECIFIED THAT NO AMOUNT OF IT SHOULD BE DETECTED IN TEXTILE PRODUCTS.

5. MHW HAS ALREADY BANNED OR IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES IN HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS INCLUDING FORMALIN, VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER AND ORGANIC MERCURY COMPOUNDS IN CLOTHING, WAX, ADHESIVES AND AEROSOL PRODUCTS.

6. COMMENT: EMBASSY IS AWARE OF CONTROVERSY IN U.S. CONCERNING USE OF APO (TRIS) AS FIRE RETARDANT IN CHILDREN'S CLOTHING. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT CERAIN ABOUT STATUS OF REGULATORY ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT CONTROL ITS USE. IF CPSC WISHES MORE INFO ON SITUATION IN JAPAN, WE WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ON REQUEST.  
MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSUMER PROTECTION, SAFETY, TEXTILES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BAN ON DIELDRIN, APO RECOMMENDED  
**TAGS:** TBIO, SENV, JA, CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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